

CRP Update

- Agricultural Act of 2014 reduces CRP acres from 32 million to 24 million by 2018.
 - Current Enrollment – 25.6 million acres
 - 2 Million Acres – Grasslands
 - Nebraska Enrollment
 - 2007 – 1,341,250 acres
 - Today – 846,020 acres – Lowest since 1988
 - 2014 Expirations – 69,557

CRP Update

- Continuous CRP Signup ended on September 30, 2013
- CRP reauthorized by Agricultural Act of 2014
- Continuous CRP Signup restarted on June 9, 2014.



CRP Update

As of June 9, 2014, producers have the opportunity to request a one year extension to their expiring general CRP signup contract. One condition for the extension is the total length of the CRP contract cannot exceed 15 years. The deadline to apply was August 15, 2014.

For expiring continuous CRP signup contracts, these contracts are eligible to reenroll.



CRP TIP

Reauthorized the Transitional Incentive Program (TIP) to transition expiring CRP from retiring farmer/rancher to beginning, veteran, or socially disadvantage (SDA) farmer/rancher. TIP now includes eligibility for military veterans. CRP TIP signup began on June 9, 2014

Retiring farmer/rancher will be entitled to 2 additional CRP rental payments. Land must be returned to sustainable grazing or crop production under a long term lease (at least 5 years) or sale.

Nebraska has \$1,099,000 allocated for this program. Nebraska FSA has received requests for \$557,989.42 on 3482 acres.



CRP Early Out

On August 6, 2014, CRP participants were provided the opportunity for an “early out” from their CRP contracts on certain practices.

Contracts **must** be in effect at least 5 years to be eligible. Eligible Nebraska acreage is 104,792 acres.

CRP Early Out

Eligible CRP practices for early out include:

- CP1, Permanent Introduced Grasses and Legumes
- CP2, Permanent Native Grasses
- CP3, Tree Planting
- CP10, Grass Already Established
- CP11, Trees Already Established

Note: All other practices are ineligible

CRP Early Out

Ineligible land includes:

- Land located within 120 feet of perennial stream or other permanent water body.
- Land with an Erodibility Index greater than 15
- Federally designated wellhead protection area.
- Land covered by a CRP easement
- Land enrolled in CREP.

CRP Early Out

CRP early out provisions:

- CRP participant must complete CRP-41
- All or portion of the CRP contract may be terminated.
- The effective date will be no earlier than October 1, 2014 and no later than September 30, 2015.
- Prorated payment will apply.
- Early land preparation is available.



CRP Early Land Preparation

Several recent changes to CRP early land preparation have been implemented.

Beginning July 1 of the final year of the CRP-1, CRP cover may be destroyed or chemicals may be applied on certain acreage before CRP-1 expiration to prepare a seedbed for spring or fall-seeded crops.

CRP Early Land Preparation

This provision requires that participants:

- Shall submit requests on CRP-1G Addendum at any time during the final year of CRP-1.
- May not destroy cover during primary nesting season. PNS end on July 15 in Nebraska.
- Are required to meet with NRCS to obtain an approved conservation plan for:
 - The destruction of cover if the method of destruction could cause adverse environmental effects.
 - Conservation compliance, if applicable.

CRP Early Land Preparation

This provision requires that participants:

- May plant fall-seeded agricultural commodities in areas where planting of these crops normally occurs before October 1, as determined by FSA STC.
- May mechanically remove cover and make commercial use of CRP-1 period with a 25 percent reduction of annual rental payment.

CRP Early Land Preparation

This provision requires that participants:

- Shall receive a reduced rental payment for the period the destruction begins.
- Shall be in violation to CRP-1 if the participants fail to plant a fall seeded crop in a normal manner.

CRP Early Land Preparation

CRP early land prep restrictions:

- Not permitted on fields windbreaks, grass waterways, filter strips, riparian buffers, and wetlands.
- Not located within 120 feet of a stream or other permanent waterbody
- Not located within an EPA- designated wellhead protection area
- Land subject to frequent flooding as determined by NRCS is not eligible.



CRP Update

The rental payment portion of the Grassland Reserve Program enrollment has been incorporated into CRP.

The details are yet to be announced.



Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for CRP

The Notice of Availability of Draft Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for CRP was issued on July 15, 2014. This Notice was provided by email to State Technical Committee members on July 24, 2014. In this Notice are the links to the actual Draft SPEIS.



United States Department of Agriculture

Supplemental Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for CRP

Comment period ends on September 8,
2014. Get your comments included for
consideration.